

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09233 01 OF 05 191123Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11
AGR-05 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-20
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15
PA-02 DLOS-09 ACDA-12 OES-07 ABF-01 H-02 NSC-05
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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 GENEVA 09233

PARIS FOR NESCO, ROME FOR FODAG, VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNDP, EAID
SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: STATEMENT BY MR.
K.K.S. DADZIE

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE STATEMENT OF THE UN D-G FOR
DEVELOPMENT, MR. K.K. DADZIE, TO THE UNDP GOVERNING
COUNCIL, GIVEN ON 16 JUNE.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

MAY I SAY HOW VERY PLEASED I AM TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY
OF PARTICIPATING AT THIS SESSION OF THE GOVERNING
COUNCIL OF THE UNDP. I SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY WARM
THANKS TO THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE
AND TO YOU, SIR, FOR YOUR GENEROUS WELCOME. BEING
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09233 01 OF 05 191123Z

NEW TO THE COUNCIL'S DELIBERATIONS, I INTEND MERELY
TO VENTURE A FEW INITIAL REFLECTIONS ON CERTAIN OF
THE BROADER ISSUES WHICH ARE OF RELEVANCE TO ITS WORK.

OVER THE YEARS UNDP HAS PROVIDED THE DEVELOPING COUN-
TRIES WITH CONSTRUCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE
IN A UNIQUE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT.

IT HAS EVOLVED INTO A MULTI-SECTORAL AND NEAR-UNIVERSAL MECHANISM FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION, TEMPERED BY TIME AND EXPERIENCE, ENDOWED WITH PROVEN CAPACITIES, AND DRAWING UPON WIDE-RANGING TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. IT HAS GAINED STRENGTH AND VITALITY FROM THE COLLABORATION OF THE REST OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND IN PARTICULAR FROM THE PARTICIPATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. IN ITS EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF FIELD OFFICES, UNDP HAS DEVELOPED A VALUABLE INSTRUMENT FOR BRINGING THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE SYSTEM INTO PROPER RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER AND FOR PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS IN THEIR TASK OF COORDINATING TECHNICAL COOPERATION AVAILABLE FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES.

MORE RECENTLY, UNDP, UNDER THE VERY ABLE AND DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP OF MR. MORSE, HAS BEEN MORE MINDFUL THAN EVER OF THE NECESSITY TO KEEP ITS MANDATE AND STRATEGY UNDER REVIEW, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN ITS DYNAMISM, TO IMPROVE ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND ABOVE ALL TO ENHANCE ITS RELEVANCE. THIS PROCESS HAS GONE FORWARD IN THE AWARENESS THAT A GROWING ORGANIZATION MUST BE ABLE TO ADJUST TO NEW AND CHANGING DEMANDS AND A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME SHOULD BE PARTICULARLY RESPONSIVE TO SITUATIONS AS THEY CHANGE, OFTEN IN CONSEQUENCE OF ASSISTANCE ALREADY OFFERED.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09233 01 OF 05 191123Z

THE 1970'S HAVE SEEN SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE CLIMATE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND MUCH HAS BEEN LEARNT ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. CONCERNED TO SHED THE INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL TUTELAGE THAT CHARACTERIZED THEIR COLONIAL PAST, AND HAVING ACQUIRED VALUABLE EXPERIENCE IN PLANNING AND MANAGING THEIR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE COME TO INSIST ON THEIR RIGHT TO CHART THEIR OWN PATH TO DEVELOPMENT, FOUNDED ON LOCAL VALUES AND CIRCUMSTANCES. THEY HAVE PLACED INCREASING EMPHASIS ON SELF-RELIANCE AND ON MUTUAL COOPERATION AMONG THEMSELVES BASED ON AN AWARENESS OF COMMON PROBLEMS AND ON THEIR COMMON INTEREST IN JOINT ACTION. THE REALIZATION HAS SET IN THAT DEVELOPMENT CAN NO LONGER BE CONSIDERED SIMPLY AS A PROCESS OF TRICKLE DOWN OR OF ADOPTING INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY MODELS IN LINEAR MIMETIC FASHION. DEVELOPMENT IS INCREASINGLY SEEN AS A PROCESS THAT SHOULD BE GEARED TO THE HUMAN FACTOR BOTH AS THE AGENT AND THE BENEFICIARY OF DEVELOPMENT; SHOULD BE ENDOGENOUS, INVOLVING THE AUTONOMOUS DEFINITION BY EACH SOCIETY OF ITS OWN

VALUES AND GOALS; SHOULD RELY PRIMARILY ON THE STRENGTH AND RESOURCES OF EACH COUNTRY; SHOULD ENCOMPASS THE TRANSFORMATION OF OBSTRUCTIVE STRUCTURES, BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL; SHOULD BE IN HARMONY WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESPECT ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS. THESE CHANGING PERCEPTIONS HAVE BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY A WIDE-SPREAD RECOGNITION OF THE WEAKNESSES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE. MUCH AS THEIR NON-IMPLEMENTATION DESERVES TO BE REGRETTEED, THE POLICY MEASURES ENVISAGED IN THE STRATEGY WOULD IN ANY EVENT HAVE BEEN INADEQUATE, IN THE FACE OF THE REALITIES OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM, TO PROVIDE

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09233 02 OF 05 191132Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11
AGR-05 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-20
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 GENEVA 09233

PARIS FOR NESCO, ROME FOR FODAG, VIENNA FOR UNIDO

A SOUND BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE EVOLUTION THUS DESCRIBED - TO WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS THE EXTRA-GOVERNMENTAL INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY HAS MADE A DISTINCTIVE CONTRIBUTION - HAS INEVITABLY HAD A FAR-REACHING IMPACT ON THE NATURE AND DIRECTION OF MULTI-LATERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION, WHICH IS ONLY A PART BUT A VITAL AND INTEGRAL PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT EFFORT. THUS THE

GOVERNING COUNCIL CONSENSUS ENDORSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFLECTED THE PRINCIPLES OF AUTONOMY AND SELF-RELIANCE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WHEN IT AFFIRMED THE RIGHT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO MAKE THEIR OWN CHOICES, BASED ON THEIR OWN DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES, REGARDING THE ALLOCATION OF UNDP RESOURCES PLACED AT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09233 02 OF 05 191132Z

THEIR DISPOSAL. SUBSEQUENTLY THE ASSEMBLY'S DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER PROCLAIMED THE ELIMINATION OF INEQUALITIES AND INJUSTICE IN HUMAN SOCIETY AS THE MAJOR GOAL OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION; THESE DOCUMENTS ALSO LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR AN OVERHAUL OF THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND TO THAT END UNDERLINED THE NEED TO UNDERTAKE A RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM. SIMILARLY IN A NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS, THE ASSEMBLY IDENTIFIED TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS A MEANS OF GIVING INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION A TRULY UNIVERSAL CHARACTER, OF ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EXTENDING THE DIMENSIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM. AND FINALLY, THE RECENT DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL CONCERNING "NEW DIMENSIONS" AND THE ROLE AND ACTIVITIES OF UNDP HAVE ARTICULATED THE GUIDELINE THAT, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE PROGRESS TOWARDS THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, MULTILATERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION MUST AIM CLEARLY AND EXCLUSIVELY AT THE NATIONAL AND COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE QUEST FOR NEW APPROACHES TO MULTILATERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION WHICH WOULD DEVELOP AND GIVE EFFECT TO THESE GOALS IS BY NO MEANS AT AN END. IN AGREEING TO GIVE RENEWED ATTENTION TO THE ROLE AND ACTIVITIES OF UNDP AND TO TAKE UP A SELECTION OF RELATED QUESTIONS AT THE CURRENT SESSION, THE GOVERNING COUNCIL HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT IT IS ITSELF IN THE FOREFRONT OF THIS QUEST. THE CHALLENGE OF THE PRESENT JUNCTURE IS EFFECTIVELY TO BRING TO BEAR ON THIS PROCESS THE LARGE NUMBER OF FAC- UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09233 02 OF 05 191132Z

TORS THAT DETERMINE BOTH THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE THRUST OF UNDP ACTIVITY.

I PROPOSE TO ADDRESS THE REST OF MY REMARKS TO SOME OF THESE FACTORS FROM THE PARTICULAR STANDPOINT AND WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE OVERALL OBJECTIVES WHICH WERE SET OUT IN GA RESOLUTION 32/197 (ANNEX, PARA. 28) FOR THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UN SYSTEM.

IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 32/197, IN DEFINING THE OBJECTIVES WHICH SHOULD GOVERN THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, GAVE PRIDE OF PLACE TO THE NEED FOR A REAL INCREASE IN THE FLOW OF RESOURCES FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES ON A PREDICTABLE, CONTINUOUS AND ASSURED BASIS. IT HAS BEEN POINTED OUT FORCEFULLY AND FREQUENTLY THAT THE PRESENT FLOW OF MULTILATERAL RESOURCES FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION FALLS SERIOUSLY SHORT OF THE NEEDS. WITHOUT A REASONABLE INCREASE IN RESOURCES IN REAL TERMS UNDP'S POTENTIAL WILL REMAIN UNDER-UTILIZED AND ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT STUNTED. IN ADDITION, UNDP RESOURCES, INADEQUATE AS THEY ARE, ARE SUBJECT TO SHORT-TERM UNCERTAINTIES WHICH ARE DIFFICULT TO RECONCILE WITH THE LONGER TERM DEMANDS MADE ON IT. AT THE SAME TIME, IMPORTANT POINTS OF AGREEMENT HAVE BEGUN TO EMERGE; AMONG THESE MIGHT BE MENTIONED THE DESIRABILITY OF A 14 PERCENT OR MORE GROWTH TARGET, THE IMPORTANCE OF MULTI-YEAR PLEDGING, THE POSSIBILITY OF A MORE EQUITABLE SHARING OF THE PROVISION OF RESOURCES FOR THE PROGRAMME. SEVERAL ADDITIONAL OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION ARE BEFORE THE COUNCIL, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF PLEDGING IN REAL TERMS, IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CONVERTIBILITY OF RESOURCES AND TIMELINESS OF PAYMENTS, AND TOTALLY NEW SOURCES OF FINANCE, FOR INSTANCE FROM THE REVENUE OF SEA-BED EXPLOITATION.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 09233 02 OF 05 191132Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09233 03 OF 05 191140Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12
NEA-11 AGR-05 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02
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NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15
PA-02 DLOS-09 ACDA-12 OES-07 ABF-01 H-02 NSC-05
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UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 GENEVA 09233

PARIS FOR NESCO, ROME FOR FODAG, VIENNA FOR UNIDO

THE PROBLEM SHOULD, HOWEVER, ALSO BE SEEN AND PURSUED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WIDER DIALOGUE ON THE TRANSFER OF RESOURCES IN REAL TERMS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. UNDP MAY OF COURSE BE EXPECTED TO ENJOY A FAVORABLE SHARE IN ANY GENERALLY EXPANDED FLOW OF OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. BUT HAS THE TIME NOT COME FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL COOPERATION, INCLUDING AGREEMENT ON ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF FUNDING, TO UNDERPIN INTERNATIONALLY AGREED OBJECTIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT, OF WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY LARGER OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT TRANSFERS WOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART ON AN INCREASINGLY ASSURED, PREDICTABLE AND CONTINUOUS BASIS? MIGHT NOT THE POINT OF DEPARTURE OF SUCH A SYSTEM LIE IN THE INCREASING RECOGNITION THAT SUCH RESOURCE TRANSFERS WOULD NOT ONLY ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN ACCELERATING

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09233 03 OF 05 191140Z

ING THE PACE OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT BUT ALSO BENEFIT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES BY CREATING ADDITIONAL DEMAND FOR THEIR PRODUCTS AND THUS ENCOURAGE A MORE EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF THEIR PRODUCTIVE CAPACITIES AND THE STIMULATION OF THEIR ECONOMIES IN A NON-INFLATIONARY MANNER?

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON RESTRUCTURING ALSO REAFFIRMED THE OBJECTIVE THAT ASSISTANCE PROVIDED THROUGH THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM SHOULD BE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES OF THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. THIS CONFIRMATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS

BOTH AS PRIMARY PARTNERS AND AS BENEFICIARIES OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION IS OF COURSE AN IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCE OF THE CONCEPTUAL RE-ORIENTATIONS ALREADY MENTIONED. EQUALLY, IT REINFORCES THE NOTION THAT UNDP-ASSISTED PROJECTS ARE INTEGRAL PARTS OF NATIONAL PROGRAMMES BASED ON GOVERNMENTAL POLICIES AND PLANS: ACCORDINGLY THEY SHOULD BE REGARDED AS UNDERTAKINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED, WHICH, WHILE RETAINING BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM, SEEKS ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THEIR FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION. THESE IDEAS ARE ALREADY BEING REFLECTED IN THE APPROACHES DEVELOPED BY UNDP TO THE MATTER OF GOVERNMENT EXECUTION. NEVERTHELESS, THE QUESTION CALLS FOR CAREFUL EXAMINATION WHETHER THERE MIGHT NOT BE SCOPE FOR A RESTRUCTURING OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS, UNDP AND THE AGENCIES IN THIS AREA - A RESTRUCTURING WHICH, SUBJECT TO THE DESIRES OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES, WOULD GIVE AN INCREASING MEASURE OF PRACTICAL EFFECT, SO FAR AS PROJECT PLANNING AND EXECUTION ARE CONCERNED, TO BOTH THE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09233 03 OF 05 191140Z

GOVERNMENTS, WHICH WOULD NATURALLY REMAIN FREE TO UTILIZE THE SERVICES OF, OR DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITY TO, THE COMPETENT AGENCY FOR SPECIFIC ASPECTS?

RELATED TO THE PRINCIPLE JUST MENTIONED IS THE CONSIDERATION THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THEIR CAPACITY TO ABSORB TECHNICAL COOPERATION IS SUBSTANTIALLY IN EXCESS OF PRESENT LEVELS; THESE LEVELS DO INDEED REPRESENT A SERIOUS CONSTRAINT ON DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND THERE CLEARLY WOULD BE ADVANTAGE IN UNDERTAKING AN OVER-ALL ASSESSMENT OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION NEEDS INCLUDING THE PATTERNS AND TRENDS OF EVOLVING DEMAND. ALTHOUGH THE OFFICIAL TYPOLOGY BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND OTHER SERIOUSLY DISADVANTAGED COUNTRIES IS FIRMLY ROOTED IN THE LEGISLATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BENEFIT FROM FURTHER REFINEMENT. MUCH MORE REQUIRES TO BE KNOWN ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE EVOLVING DEMAND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION: NOT ONLY ARE THERE DIFFERENCES IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BUT THERE ARE VARIATIONS IN THEIR STYLES OF DEVELOPMENT, IN THEIR INDIGENOUS TECHNICAL CAPACITIES, AND IN THE RATE OF CHANGE IN THE VARIOUS SECTORS OF DEVELOPMENT. COULD PROGRESS IN THIS DIRECTION NOT LEAD TO A NEW TYPOLOGY OF SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS INCLUDING THEIR INTER-RELATIONSHIPS WHICH WOULD ASSIST IN THE PROPER REORIENTATION OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND THUS ENHANCE ITS RELEVANCE TO THE NEEDS AND NATIONAL

PRIORITIES OF GOVERNMENTS?

THE THIRD OBJECTIVE ENUNCIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION FOR THE RESTRUCTURING OF OPERATIONAL
ACTIVITIES IS THAT THEIR ORIENTATION SHOULD FULLY
REFLECT THE OVER-ALL STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND PRIORITIES
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09233 04 OF 05 191148Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11
AGR-05 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-20
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NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15
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UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 GENEVA 09233

PARIS FOR NESCO, ROME FOR FODAG, VIENNA FOR UNIDO

COUNCIL. THIS OBJECTIVE IMPLIES A ROLE FOR TECHNICAL
COOPERATION THAT WOULD BE RESPONSIVE IN A CREATIVE AND
DYNAMIC FASHION TO THE EVOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND PARTICULARLY TO THE REQUIREMENTS
OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. IT ALSO THROWS
INTO SHARP FOCUS THE NECESSITY TO HARMONIZE AND ENSURE
CROSS-FERTILIZATION BETWEEN COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND
GLOBAL POLICIES; AT THE SAME TIME IT EVOKES THE PROBLEM
OF RECONCILING THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL
GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE THE PURPOSES OF UNDP ASSISTANCE
WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
TO ADVISE, ON THE BASIS OF GUIDELINES SET BY INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL BODIES, ON THE BEST WAYS AND MEANS. THE
OBSERVATION HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN MADE THAT WHILE COUNTRY
PROGRAMMES NATURALLY REFLECT NATIONAL PRIORITIES, THEY

HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN OF ASSISTANCE IN TRANSLATING POLICY
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09233 04 OF 05 191148Z

STRATEGIES DETERMINED COLLECTIVELY BY GOVERNMENTS INTO
ACTION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

CLEAR SOLUTIONS TO THIS PROBLEM ARE NOT READILY AVAILABLE BUT A NUMBER OF APPROACHES HAVE ALREADY BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR WHICH DESERVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. AMONG THESE SUGGESTIONS IS A PROGRESSIVE SHIFT OF EMPHASIS IN TECHNICAL COOPERATION FROM OPERATIONAL AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO SUBSTANTIVE SUPPORT INVOLVING THE TRANSFER OF ACCUMULATED KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE ON DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN PRIORITY AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE RESPONSIBLE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES. SUCH A SHIFT IN EMPHASIS SHOULD BE OF HELP TO GOVERNMENTS IN RELATING THEIR NATIONAL OPTIONS TO THE EVOLVING FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION' AS AN EXTENSION OF THE SAME APPROACH, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE USEFUL FOR A STUDY TO BE UNDERTAKEN, DRAWING ON THE WORK ALREADY DONE PURSUANT TO DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE ASSEMBLY ON THE UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS AND PLANNING, ON THE FEASIBILITY OF APPLYING SIMILAR APPROACHES TO TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SYSTEM-WIDE COMPATIBILITY AND CONGRUENCE. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY SUGGESTED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR WHICH IS TO BE COMMENDED IS TO INTENSIFY TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES AIMED AT PROVIDING SUPPORT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AS DESIRED BY THEM, IN THE PREPARATION OF THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITIONS ON ASPECTS OF THEIR DIALOGUE WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. AT THE PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING LEVEL, THE CONVERGENCE BETWEEN COUNTRY PROGRAMMING AND REGIONAL AND GLOBAL POLICY STRATEGIES COULD BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED IF EXISTING LINKAGES AND FEED-BACK MECHANISMS WOULD BE IMPROVED NOT ONLY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION CYCLE
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09233 04 OF 05 191148Z

ITSELF, AS DESCRIBED IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL CONSENSUS, BUT MORE PARTICULARLY AS BETWEEN RESEARCH, NORMATIVE ACTIVITIES AND POLICY ANALYSIS ON THE ONE HAND, AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION ON THE OTHER HAND.

THE LAST BROAD OBJECTIVE ENUNCIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN RESPECT OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OPTIMUM

EFFICIENCY AND THE REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS WITH A CONSEQUENT INCREASE IN THE PROPORTION OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEET THE ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS OF RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. THIS OBJECTIVE IS OF COURSE ONE WHICH HAS ACTIVELY ENGAGED THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IN THE PAST AND ON WHICH THE ADMINISTRATOR HAS TAKEN SEVERAL IMPORTANT INITIATIVES IN AREAS RELATING, FOR INSTANCE, TO PROCUREMENT, CONTRACTING, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, TO ENSURE THAT UNDP MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OPERATE AT MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EFFORTS IN THE SAME DIRECTION ARE TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEM, THROUGH INTER-SECRETARIAT MACHINERY AS APPROPRIATE, TOGETHER WITH STEPS TO ACHIEVE GREATER UNIFORMITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINANCIAL BUDGETARY PERSONNEL AND PLANNING PROCEDURES. FURTHERMORE, THE COUNCIL HAD BEFORE IT AT THE PRESENT SESSION A STIMULATING REPORT BY THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT ON THE ROLE OF EXPERTS IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MANY OF WHOSE CONCLUSIONS ARE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED OBJECTIVE.

IN THE WIDER SENSE HOWEVER, THE OBJECTIVE OF OPTIMUM EFFICIENCY CANNOT BE CONSIDERED IN ISOLATION FROM THE QUESTION OF THE COORDINATING ROLE OF UNDP AT THE COUNTRY, REGIONAL AND HEADQUARTERS LEVELS. THE JOINT VIEWS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ON HOW BEST TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE WISHES OF THE GENERAL

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09233 05 OF 05 191152Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11
AGR-05 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-20
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0987
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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 GENEVA 09233

PARIS FOR NESCO, ROME FOR FODAG, VIENNA FOR UNIDO

ASSEMBLY ON A NUMBER OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED ARE CONTAINED IN THE RELEVANT REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION. BUT ONE KEY ISSUE, WHICH IT WOULD BE FOR GOVERNMENTS TO RESOLVE, RELATES TO THE INTEGRATION MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN RESPECT OF EXISTING UNITED NATIONS FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT FINANCED BY EXTRA-BUDGETARY RESOURCES. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE CLEAR-CUT GUIDELINES ON THIS ISSUE BEYOND INDICATING THE PREMISE THAT SUCH INTEGRATION WOULD STIMULATE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER LEVELS OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND THAT INTEGRATION SHOULD ACCORDINGLY PROCEED WITH DUE REGARD TO THE CURRENT LEVELS OF SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS.

THESE THEN ARE THE REFLECTIONS WHICH I WISHED TO SHARE WITH THE COUNCIL AT THIS IMPORTANT SESSION - REFLECTIONS WHICH ARE IN THE NATURE OF CONSIDERATIONS TO BE LOOKED UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09233 05 OF 05 191152Z

AT AND TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS MEMBERS CONSIDER APPROPRIATE, RATHER THAN PRESCRIPTIONS FOR ACTION.

IN CONCLUSION, MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THAT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONSIDERS IT A PLEASANT DUTY TO EXTEND TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ITS FULLEST COOPERATION. I DO SO CONSCIOUS OF THE CHALLENGE CURRENTLY CONFRONTING THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AT THIS TIME - THE CHALLENGE OF HELPING TO BUILD A GLOBALLY INTEGRATED ECONOMY, ONE IN WHICH POOR COUNTRIES BOTH CONTRIBUTE AND RECEIVE AS EQUAL PARTNERS, AND ONE IN WHICH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS ARE RESTRUCTURED ON THE BASIS OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY. END TEXT.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8e024186-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 11
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2302845
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: STATEMENT BY MR. K.K.S. DADZIE
TAGS: EAID, UNDP, (DADZIE, K K S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8e024186-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014